



Borough of Lowestoft

REPORT

OF

**The Medical Officer
of Health**

AND

Port Medical Officer

for the Year

1968

ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF
LOWESTOFT.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report of the health of the Borough for the year 1968, which is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The mid-year population estimate provided by the Registrar-General has increased by 690 over the 1967 figure to 49,850. The total number of live and stillbirths (847) in 1968 was more by 95 than in 1967, and the adjusted rate per 1,000 population was above the rate for England and Wales. Five more infant deaths (under one year) occurred, increasing the principal rates per 1,000 in the various categories of infant deaths. Deaths from all causes rose from 606 to 626. There were no significant changes in the categories of the causes of death. 11% (79) deaths occurred in the age groups under 55 years of age, 49% (307) were in the 75+ years age group. Happily there were no maternal deaths.

656 notifications of infectious diseases were recorded, 607 of which were in respect of measles. Although the number of measles cases notified during the year was fairly high, the number may have been even greater if it had not been for the introduction of measles vaccination during the spring of 1968. It will be interesting to see the effect on the number of measles cases in the next few years.

I am grateful to the General Manager of the East Anglian Water Company, the Borough Surveyor, and the Borough Treasurer, who have contributed reports and statistics concerning water supply, sewerage and public cleansing, meteorology, and other data.

Mr. Cormack, Chief Public Health Inspector, records the success of his first trainee, Ian Garrod (left 31st July, 1968) and welcomed to the department John H. Dean, trainee (commenced on 16th September, 1968). In the detailed report of the work carried out under his supervision, he again draws attention to the need for proper stock rotation to obviate complaints of mouldy food. These complaints were reported to your committee by Mr. Cormack and the appropriate action taken in each case. I am grateful to Mr. Cormack and to his inspectors and other staff for their work during the year.

Dr. A. S. Lindsay who had been Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Borough School Medical Officer in Lowestoft since 1961, was successful in obtaining an appointment as Senior Medical Officer, School Health Service, with the Norfolk County Council and left Lowestoft early in September, 1968. Dr. Lindsay had given valuable service, especially in the Borough School Health Service and his departure was a big loss to the department. In consultation with the East Suffolk County Council it was decided that the eventual successor

to Dr. Lindsay would be a combined appointment to cover both the Borough and County Council Health work including an integrated School Health Service. In the meantime Dr. E. J. Steele, the Senior Medical Officer of the East Suffolk County Council has been appointed Honorary Deputy Borough Medical Officer.

I express my thanks to you Mr. Mayor, and to members of the Council for the support given to me and to staff of the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CLAPHAM ROAD,
LOWESTOFT.

June, 1969.

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR DR. SALMON

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MR. MATTHEWS

THE MAYOR

ALDERMAN	MR. HORTON	COUNCILLOR	MR. HUMPHERY
„	KEENE	„	LONG, A. W.
„	LANG	„	LONG, F. A.
„	MISS MANN	„	MOONEY
„	MR. WALLER	„	REYNOLDS
COUNCILLOR	MR. ADAMS	„	MRS. RUMP
„	BARNARD	„	MR. SCARLES
„	CHIPPERFIELD	„	WADE
„	DURRANT, G.		

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health, Port Medical Officer and Borough School Medical Officer:

ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Deputy Borough School Medical Officer:

ALLAN S. LINDSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (left 8.9.68)

Chief Public Health Inspector, Port Health Inspector:

H. CORMACK, CERT.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Deputy Port Health Inspector:

F. G. S. HILL, CERT.S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

K. G. ADAMS, CERT.S.I.B.
J. C. BENCH, D.I.P., P.H.I.E.B.
J. R. FISHER, CERT.S.I.B.
J. H. DEAN (*trainee*)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area 4,796 acres (Census 1961).

Area (including foreshore): 5,640 acres.

Population: 45,730 (Census, 1961).

49,850 (Registrar-General's mid year estimate).

Number of private households: 15,319 (Census, 1961).

Number of inhabited houses according to rate books at 31st March, 1969: 17,960.

Rateable value at 31st December, 1968: £1,965,262

Sum represented by a penny rate 1968/69: £7,950

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	<i>LOWESTOFT</i>					<i>England and Wales rates</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Crude rate</i>	<i>Adjusted rate</i>	
Live births—						
legitimate	769	393	376	—	—	—
illegitimate	63	29	34	—	—	—
total	832	422	410	—	—	—
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	16·7	17·5	16·9
Stillbirths—						
legitimate	14	10	4	—	—	—
illegitimate	1	1	—	—	—	—
total	15	11	4	—	—	—
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	—	—	—	17·7	15·4	14·0
Total live and stillbirths	847	433	414	—	—	—
Infant deaths— under one year—						
legitimate	17	9	8	—	—	—
illegitimate	1	1	—	—	—	—
total	18	10	8	—	—	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	21·6	18·8	18·0

	LOWESTOFT					<i>England and Wales rates</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Crude rate</i>	<i>Adjusted rate</i>	
Infant mortality rate (legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate livebirths)	—	—	—	22·1	19·2	—
Infant mortality rate (illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate livebirths)	—	—	—	15·8	13·7	—
Infant deaths— under four weeks						
legitimate	11	6	5	—	—	—
illegitimate	1	1	—	—	—	—
total	12	7	5	—	—	—
Neo-natal (first four weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	14·4	12·5	12·3
Infant deaths— under one week—						
legitimate	11	6	5	—	—	—
illegitimate	1	1	—	—	—	—
total	12	7	5	—	—	—
Early neo-natal (under one week) mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	14·4	12·5	10·5
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total liveandstillbirths)	—	—	—	31·8	27·6	25·0
Maternal deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from all causes	626	323	303	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	12·6	10·9	11·9

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Other Tuberculosis, including late effects	1	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	22	16	6
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus	20	16	4
Malignant neoplasm—breast	11	1	10
Malignant neoplasm—uterus	3	—	3
Leukaemia	6	4	2
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	52	32	20
Diabetes mellitus	6	3	3
Other endocrine, etc., diseases	3	—	3
Anaemias	3	—	3
Meningitis	2	1	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	1	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	7	3	4
Hypertensive disease	13	2	11
Ischaemic heart disease	162	96	66
Other forms of heart disease	23	9	14
Cerebrovascular disease	93	35	58
Other diseases of circulatory system	33	15	18
Influenza	11	6	5
Pneumonia	56	26	30
Bronchitis and emphysema	22	16	6
Asthma	1	—	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	5	4	1
Peptic ulcer	3	1	2
Appendicitis	1	1	—
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	4	—	4
Other diseases of digestive system	7	5	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	3	—
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	3	1	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	2	1	1
Congenital anomalies	8	5	3
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	3	2	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	8	4	4
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	5	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	2
All other accidents	10	3	7
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	5	4	1
	<u>626</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>303</u>

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of the following infectious diseases were received during the year (1967 figures shown bracketed):—

Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	15	(13)
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	—	(—)
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	23	(1)
Measles	.....	.....	607	(320)
Tuberculosis (Resp.)	.....	.....	2	(11)
Tuberculosis (other)	.....	.....	—	(1)
Food Poisoning	.....	.....	—	(1)
Infective Hepatitis	.....	.....	2	(5)
Pneumonia	.....	.....	4	(1)
Erysipelas.....	.....	.....	2	(1)
Encephalitis	.....	.....	1	(—)

TUBERCULOSIS

SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1968

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pul-monary</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary</i>	<i>Pul-monary</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary</i>	
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1967	154	14	110	24	302
Number of cases added during the year	2	1	5	—	8
Number of cases removed during the year	11	—	7	3	21
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1968	145	15	108	21	289

<i>Cases Added to the Register</i>			<i>Cases Removed from the Register</i>		
New notifications	.....	7	Recovered	.....	14
Inward Transfers	.....	1	Died	.....	2
			Removed to other areas		5
		—			—
		8			21
		==			==

Tuberculosis patients and their families remain under the supervision of Dr. I. M. Young, Consultant Chest Physician, to whom Miss Stiles, one of the County Council's health visitors is attached for domiciliary visiting of the households.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following categories of staff were medically examined during the year for the Borough, the County Council and other local authorities:—

Teachers for appointment or for admission to training colleges	70
Local government employees for entry into super-annuation and sick pay schemes, or on retirement	12
School Meals Canteen employees	23
Local Government employees staff medical enquiry forms reviewed	33

HOME HELP SERVICE

	<i>Number of Cases dealt with</i>	<i>Hours Worked</i>
Maternity	53	2,349
Chronic sick, aged and infirm	652	146,622
Number of Home Helps working at 31st December, 1968—200		

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

The quantity of the various items issued was as follows (1967 figures bracketed):—

National Dried Milk, full cream, tins	2,627	(4,599)
National Dried Milk, half cream, tins	—	(—)
Orange Juice, bottles	10,788	(10,819)
Cod Liver Oil, bottles	1,011	(948)
Vitamin A and D, packets	1,142	(1,209)

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT
REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVERS FOR 1968

	Sun		Rain		Average Daily Temperature		1968				
	1968	Normal 1921-50 hrs.	1968	Normal 1916-50 ins.	1968	Normal 1921-50	Highest Max.	Lowest Min.	Lowest Max.	Highest Min.	Lowest Grass Min.
January	34.1	56.0	1.96	2.22	38.9	38.9	55	25	33	46	23
February	44.8	75.0	1.49	1.54	37.3	39.3	46	29	36	38	24
March	130.1	136.0	0.86	1.32	43.8	42.1	64	30	38	46	26
April	208.1	165.0	1.03	1.67	46.6	46.6	70	29	38	48	25
May	165.4	211.0	1.20	1.49	50.0	51.5	65	35	49	50	31
June	195.6	212.0	2.54	1.60	57.8	57.5	75	43	59	56	41
July	158.6	214.0	2.86	2.31	59.2	61.6	74	43	59	64	41
August	102.9	195.0	3.08	2.14	59.7	61.7	70	43	59	59	38
September	158.3	156.0	5.14	2.09	58.6	58.4	70	44	60	60	41
October	68.3	117.0	2.12	2.32	55.3	51.7	67	41	55	58	37
November	31.4	62.0	2.31	2.72	45.6	44.6	61	30	39	55	29
December	30.4	51.0	2.67	2.19	38.3	40.0	51	21	33	47	18
<hr/>											
Highest Maximum 75 degrees F. on 15th June											
Lowest Minimum 21 degrees F. on 13th, 30th and 31st December											
Greatest rainfall in a day—2.84 inches on 15th September											
Date of last frost of Spring—18th May											
Sunshine—Sun hours were below yearly normal by 322 hrs.											
<hr/>											
Lowest Maximum 33 degrees F. on 11th January and 29th December											
Highest Minimum 64 degrees F. on 2nd July											
Date of first frost of Autumn—10th November											
Rainfall—Rainfall was above the yearly normal by 3.65 ins.											

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied to the whole of the town by the East Anglian Water Company and I am indebted to the General Manager, J. M. Boon, Esq., F.C.I.S., F.I.A.C., for the following information.

The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. Bacteriological examinations are made of the raw water at monthly intervals. The water leaving the treatment works at Lound is examined at fortnightly intervals and water supplied to the consumer is examined at weekly intervals. Monthly samples are taken in Lowestoft and submitted for full chemical analysis. The fluoride content of the water has changed very little between 0·1 and 0·2 parts per million.

The water supply does not have plumbo solvent action which could be injurious to health.

No cases of contamination of the water distributed to the public have arisen during the year.

There are no standpipes in use in the borough.

A copy of the report on a water sample taken on 16th October, 1968, is reproduced below.

<i>Chemical Results in Parts per Million (Mg/L)</i>			
<i>Chemical</i>			
Appearance	.....	.....	Clear and bright
Colour (Hazen)	.....	.....	Nil
pH	.....	.....	7·4
Electric Conductivity	.....	.....	710
Chlorine present as Chloride	.....	.....	55
Hardness: Total	.....	.....	365 { Carbonate 225 Non-carbonate 140
Nitrate Nitrogen	.....	.....	0·1
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	.....	0·02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	.....	0·03
Metals	.....	.....	Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead—Absent
Turbidity	.....	.....	Nil
Odour	.....	.....	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	.....	.....	20
Dissolved Solids dried at 180° C.	.....	.....	500
Alkalinity as Calcium Car- bonate	.....	.....	225
Nitrite Nitrogen	.....	.....	Absent
Oxygen Absorbed.....	.....	.....	0·50
Residual Chlorine.....	.....	.....	0·02

Bacteriological

Number of colonies developing on Agar

1 day at 37°C.

2 days at 37°C.

3 days at 20-22°C.

0 per million

0 per million

0 per million

Absent

Most

from

probable No.

Presumptive Coliform reaction

100 ml.

0 per 100 ml.

Bact. coli (Type 1)

100 ml.

0 per 100 ml.

Cl. welchii reaction

100 ml.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction slightly on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is very hard in character but contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of very satisfactory organic quality and conforms to the highest standard of bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The following report on Drainage, Sewerage, Public Cleansing and Street Cleansing has been kindly supplied by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, D. J. E. Hone, Esq., B.SC.(ENG.), A.M.I.C.E.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work on Phases I and II of the Main Drainage Scheme (Consulting Engineers, Messrs. J. D. and D. M. Watson of Westminster) continued with Mr. Alan King undertaking both Contracts. Most of the work on both schemes has been completed, and the remaining portions are expected to be completed by May, 1969.

Tenders for Phase IIIA of the Main Drainage Scheme (Gunton Area) were received during 1968, and the contract was awarded to Messrs. H. A. Holmes and Sons Ltd. Work will start in January, 1969.

Tenders for Phase IIIB (Sea Outfall) of the Main Drainage Scheme have been issued, and the result should be known early in 1969.

The new pumping station at Holly Road was brought into operation in February, and the one at Fen Park in August. The Bridge Road, Hall Road, Waveney Drive and Blackheath Road pumping stations and three minor pumping stations were thereby made redundant.

The Beccles Road Surface Water Sewer has been completed.

A surface water sewer is included in the proposals for the making up of Gunton Church Lane under agreement with Mr. W. M. Tubby and financial provision has been made in the estimates for the construction of an outfall to serve this sewer; also other surface water sewers on the Gunton Hall Estate. The outfall should be constructed early in 1969.

Several small drainage schemes will be put to tender early in 1969. These include Hall Road Sewer, and the schemes for the Gisleham and Oulton Industrial Estates.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Pail closets emptied by Corporation	.....	.....	36
Cesspools emptied by Corporation	.....	.....	178
Refuse disposal by controlled tipping	.....	.....	20,550 tons
Approximate number of premises from which refuse is collected (excluding summer caravans)	.....	.....	19,800

Labour for refuse collection:

Thirty loaders

Six drivers (full-time)

One driver (two days per week)

Refuse collection vehicles:—

Four Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic vehicles

Two Dennis Pakamatic vehicles

Two Shelvoke and Drewry fore and aft tippers (one summer use, one spare)

One Bedford side loader with night soil trailer (two days per week).

Labour at disposal tips:—

One ganger

One driver operating Weatherill Mechanical Shovel.

During the winter months tipping took place on the Denes, whilst during the summer Tustings pit in Normanston Drive was used on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Guymer's pit at Carlton Colville on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The filling of Guymer's pit was completed in mid-September and for the remainder of the season Mrs. Harrison's pit in Arbor Lane, Pakefield, was used. Tipping was resumed on the Denes on 30th September, 1968.

The provision of new sites for the tipping of refuse is now an urgent problem, and preliminary discussions have taken place with officers of Lothingland Rural District Council with a view to exploring the possibility of joint disposal facilities utilising some form of pulverising plant.

STREET CLEANSING

A labour force of twenty-one was used in the summer and this was reduced to nineteen during the winter when the service along the Esplanade is not so demanding in labour. Two orderlies work with the driver of the manulectric truck in the town centre whilst the remainder of the orderlies operate individually and the sweepings are collected by a lorry for disposal. Where possible, a mechanical suction sweeper is used for cleaning footpaths. Road gulleys are cleansed by means of a gully emptying machine approximately three times per year.

A Johnston suction sweeper with dual controls is used for sweeping carriageways where manual sweeping is limited or uneconomic, e.g., the outskirts of the town. It is also used in the Town Centre very early in the morning to avoid the traffic problem.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the public are demanding a higher standard of snow clearance and frost gritting during the winter. To achieve higher standards will call for greater resources than are at present available, with consequential increased cost. This is a matter which is being further examined with a view to obtaining the necessary extra plant and bigger stock piling of salt and grit.

Approximately 300 litter bins are emptied weekly.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

The investigation of complaints received as to noise nuisances again involved much time and patience. Increasing experience of this type of investigation has shown the need for a noise level meter which is to be obtained for departmental use. Many complaints arise from the use of road transport in the early hours of the morning and where the area is one of mixed residential and industrial use this type of complaint is inevitable. This type of complaint cannot be dealt with under the Noise Abatement Act.

In view of the imminent introduction of the Housing Act, 1969, it was not thought expedient to commence area house improvement work in 1968, and already the draft proposals of this Act have shown that the existing policy of compulsory house improvement is to be altered in the new Act.

During 1968 there were many periods of heavy rainfall when the sewers overflowed through surcharging. Numbers of premises were flooded. This of course could not have been prevented because the sewer system and the sea outfall in their existing state cannot cope with excessive surface water. Everyone looks forward to an early completion of the costly sewerage and outfall scheme undertaken by the Council to prevent any recurrence of this nuisance.

It is worth mentioning again that the department came across too many instances of mouldy articles of food, and containers of food which were contaminated by foreign bodies. Obviously, shop workers should give greater attention to stock rotation to ensure that all perishable articles are sold in a perfectly fresh condition.

The results of milk, ice cream, and general food sampling are satisfactory, although one feels that too many examples occur of food labels which do not accurately comply with British food labelling laws.

Mr. Ian Garrod, the first pupil to be trained in the department, obtained his Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Examination Board qualifying him as a Public Health Inspector and obtained an appointment with the London Borough of Southwark.

Mr. J. H. Dean was appointed as a trainee Public Health Inspector and is studying at the University of Aston. This is a four year course, combining practical training in the department and theoretical training at the university which, if concluded successfully, will entitle him to a B.Sc. degree in Environmental Hygiene.

It is my pleasant duty to again place on record my appreciation of all the members of my staff for the conscientious and efficient way in which they have carried out their duties and also for the interest they have taken in the training of the pupils in the department.

HOUSING

Many of the empty houses in the Beach Redevelopment Area were demolished in 1968. This area is the last collection of old houses scheduled for action in the 1955 slum clearance programme. Industrial development has already commenced in the area.

However, from test surveys carried out elsewhere in the country, the Government believes that the 1955 housing survey, which, it may be remembered, was far from being a detailed survey of old houses, did not exactly reveal the true state of the decay of our housing stock. The Government has forecast that a new Housing Act, 1969, will be brought into being to include certain measures necessary to uncover and deal with those houses which through neglect of maintenance are unfit for habitation and irreparable at the present time.

In addition, further aids are promised to speed up the already fast moving scheme of improving old houses by means of increased standard and discretionary improvement grants.

It will be remembered that a means of improving large numbers of houses by improvement area procedure was introduced in the Housing Act, 1964. This procedure always appeared to be tortuous to say the least, and it was never introduced in Lowestoft. Suffice to say that the Ministry of Housing has agreed with the opinions of practical people and has decided to repeal the 1964 Act and replace the improvement area procedures with more practical processes. The Borough Council has a very good record in the field of Improvement Grants.

STATISTICS

Houses built by private enterprise during 1968	.....	.....	425
House built by the Council during 1968	.....	.....	122
Standard Grants given for house improvements	.....	.....	105
Discretionary Grants given for house improvements	.....	.....	146
Houses made fit for habitation:—			
(a) after informal action	.....	.....	42
(b) after formal action under Public Health Act	.....	.....	11
(c) after formal action under Housing Acts	.....	.....	10
Families rehoused from Unfit Houses	.....	.....	7
Condemned houses demolished	.....	.....	18
Houses demolished after purchase by the Council	.....	.....	26
Inspections of houses under the Public Health Act	.....	.....	212
Inspections of houses under the Housing Acts	.....	.....	156
Revisits of houses under the Public Health Act	.....	.....	455
Revisits of houses under the Housing Acts	.....	.....	619

VISITS CONCERNING HEALTH CONDITIONS

Accumulations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	266
Animals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
Caravans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	82
Camping Sites	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69
Controlled Tips	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53
Dirty Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Dirty Persons	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,053

Drain Tests	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
Factories (mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79
Factories (non-mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Noise complaints	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	222
Offensive Smells	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160
Piggeries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Pigeons	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	107
Dust and Smoke	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	230
Swimming Baths	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	181
Water Supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Verminous Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	146
NOTICES SERVED						
Informal	.....	.....	89	Complied with	.....	59
Statutory	.....	.....	44	Complied with	.....	21
(P.H.A.27, H.A.17)			(P.H.A.11, H.A.10)			

SWIMMING BATHS

Forty-six samples of bath water were obtained for bacteriological examination so as to judge the efficiency of water filtration and chlorination. At the same time readings were taken of the available chlorine content in the water. Judged together, these tests indicated whether individual standards of bath water treatment were effective. In such a wet and windy summer as 1968 it was unlikely that water in open air baths would always be entirely free from organisms carried in by wind and rain, but I was satisfied that all of the baths were given proper care and attention by the attendants.

Cases of discoloured water due to algal growths and excessive chlorination were encountered which were overcome when correct treatment and chlorine dosage were demonstrated.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of premises</i>	<i>Number of premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year</i>
Offices	10	137	13
Retail Shops	16	321	116
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	4	24	13
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	2	49	36
Fuel Storage Depots	2	3	2
<i>Totals</i>	34	534	180

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS (INCLUDING GENERAL INSPECTIONS) TO REGISTERED PREMISES—545

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

<i>Class of workplace</i>		<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	.....	1204
Retail Shops	.....	1688
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	.....	237
Catering establishments open to the public.....		484
Canteens	.....	21
Fuel Storage Depots	.....	19
<i>Total</i>		3653
<i>Total Males</i>		1652
<i>Total Females</i>		2001

CONTRAVENTIONS

<i>Contravention (observed during the year - 1968)</i>	<i>No. of premises affected</i>	<i>No. of premises where contra- vention has been remedied 1968</i>
Absence of Abstract Notice	10	6
Unsatisfactory Cleanliness	39	39
Overcrowding	—	—
Insufficient Heating	4	6
Absence of Thermometer	8	8
Inadequate Ventilation	1	4
Insufficient Lighting	3	2
Defective Floors	17	13
Dangerous Openings	5	5
Seats Required (Shops)	1	—
„ „ (Offices)	—	—
Footrests Required	—	—
Machinery in need of Guarding	5	5
<i>Stairs and Passages :</i>		
(a) Defective Condition	5	4
(b) Handrails required	3	4
(c) Insufficient Lighting	2	3
First Aid Boxes Required	10	7
Absence of Drinking Water	—	—
Clothing Accommodation Re- quired	2	2
<i>Washing Facilities :</i>		
(a) Insufficient	2	2
(b) Defective Condition	8	6
(c) Insufficient Lighting	2	3
(d) Absence of H. and C. Water	7	6
(e) Absence of Soap and Towels	4	3
<i>Sanitary Conveniences :</i>		
(a) Insufficient	3	1
(b) Insufficient Lighting	8	9
(c) Insufficient Ventilation	4	3
(d) Defective Condition	16	15
Disposal of Sanitary Dressings	—	—

These contraventions were in respect of 64 premises.

Contraventions were remedied in full in respect of 61 premises.

ACCIDENTS

There were seven accidents reported during the year affecting five men and two women and brief details of these are as follows.

1. Man hit his left wrist on an open drawer and sustained bruised ligaments.

2. Man slipped on stairs whilst carrying furniture and bruised his back.
3. Man fell through a trap door opening in the first floor of a warehouse and fractured his spine. Legal proceedings are pending.
4. Woman slipped on a greaseproof bag on the floor at rear of a shop counter and bruised her knee.
5. Man was carrying a bag of cash upstairs and felt a sharp pain in his back, diagnosed as a slipped disc.
6. Man strained his back lifting a kit of fish.
7. Female injured her thumb when it was caught in a door.

RODENT CONTROL

865 complaints of rat and mouse infestations were recorded during the year and treatments of the affected and adjoining premises were carried out by the two rodent operators employed by the Council. In addition one sewer treatment was carried out and the level of infestation was again very minor.

Details of the work undertaken are tabulated below and I would again record my appreciation of the conscientious and efficient manner in which the rodent operators have carried out their work.

	<i>Non Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
Total number of properties inspected	1835	5
Number treated for rats	1126	5
Number treated for mice	347	—

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES

Happily, it was not a difficult year so far as dealing with gipsy-type caravans was concerned. There were relatively few occasions to record when itinerant caravans stayed more than one night after being asked to move on.

The Council caravan site at North Denes suffered repeatedly from sewer overflows after heavy rainfall, and frequent calls for help and complaints were received about this. The new sewer in Whapload Road will put a stop to this nuisance, I am informed, as soon as it becomes operative.

It will be a good thing when the long term future use of the North Denes can be settled so that something can be done to improve toilet and other facilities at the caravan and tenting sites (if indeed these areas continue to be used as such) several features are not as good as many people would like, and visitors expect. It is necessary to draw

attention to the need for considering improvements, if and when planning and financial considerations make these possible.

One small caravan site closed down during the year. Other sites were periodically inspected and such matters of public health importance as were found were reported to site offices for attention.

There are licensed sites in the Borough in use for 473 holiday and 95 permanent caravans.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

The outside assistance dealt with the following matters:—

Wasps nests	.....	.....	.....	35
Ants, earwigs, etc.	.....	.....	.....	49
Cockroach infestations	.....	.....	.....	9
Verminous houses	.....	.....	.....	10
Bedding disinfected	.....	.....	.....	23 lots

In addition, trapping to reduce the size of flocks of wild pigeons in the town centre was carried out throughout the year. In view of restrictions on the methods of taking these pests (i.e., by shooting, narcotising, etc.) cage trapping is the only way of carrying out this work. Furthermore, ringed birds have to be returned to pigeon societies, and we have had experience that ringed pigeons taken in Lowestoft and released in other parts of the country, have been re-taken in Lowestoft shortly afterwards.

INSPECTIONS OF FOOD PREMISES

Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
Cafes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	84
Canteens and School Kitchens	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
Cold Stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Food Factories	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65
Fish Curers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
Fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46
Food Hygiene Regulations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	865
Greengrocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Grocers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	297
Hotels	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61
Ice Cream Makers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Licensed Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87
Market Stalls	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	58
Meat Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	134
Restaurants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
Sweet Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
Warehouses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21

UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED

168 visits were made to inspect food.

The following list itemises the largest quantities of food condemned:—

Butter	.....	.....	.....	.....	59 lbs.
Beverages	.....	.....	.....	.....	48 bottles
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	.....	274 lbs.
Fish (canned)	.....	.....	.....	.....	310 tins
Fish (fresh)	.....	.....	.....	.....	26 cwts.
Fruit and Vegetables (canned)	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,209 tins
Fruit and Vegetables (fresh)	.....	.....	.....	.....	148 cwts.
Ice Cream, Mousse, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	219 packets
Jam	.....	.....	.....	.....	108 jars
Meat and Meat Products (canned)	.....	.....	.....	.....	429 tins
Meat and offal (fresh)	.....	.....	.....	.....	352 lbs.
Milk and cream products (canned)	.....	.....	.....	.....	174 tins
Soup	.....	.....	.....	.....	296 tins

There were four main reasons for condemnation:—

1. unsound and damaged canned, bottled and packeted foodstuffs
2. frozen foodstuffs becoming thawed out following refrigerator breakdown
3. fish found to be unsound after landing from trawlers or on arrival from other ports
4. decomposition of bulk consignments of raw fruit and vegetables.

Condemned fish was disposed of to a fish meal factory and the remaining articles were buried in the Council tip.

FOOD HYGIENE

All of the food trading vehicles which operate in the Borough area were looked at and several were fitted with washing facilities and provided with towels, soap, first aid necessities, etc., as required by the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The new toilet and washing block on Market Plain came into use to provide a welcome amenity for stallholders there.

Investigations had to be made into many complaints of foreign objects in food and mouldy pies. Representatives from food manufacturers visited me to discuss their factory processes and suitable measures for preventing repetitions of these occurrences and in the case of mouldy food the routine of stock rotation in shops was investigated. One prosecution was authorised in respect of a foreign object in food.

Food manufacturing and retail premises received routine inspections throughout the year. One prosecution was authorised by the Health Committee concerning insanitary conditions in a retail food shop.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH

<i>No. of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>	<i>No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 Wash hand basins</i>	<i>No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies Facilities for washing food and equipment</i>	<i>No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19</i>
Bakery Depots 1	1	1	1
Bakehouses 9	9	9	9
Butcher's Shops 52	52	52	52
Cafes Restaurants 64	64	64	64
Canteens 30	30	30	30
Confectioner's Shops 69	69	34	38
Cold Stores 5	5	5	5
Factories 16	16	16	16
Fish Curers 10	10	10	10
Fishmonger's Shops 10	10	10	10
Fried Fish Shops 31	31	31	31
Greengrocer's Shops 26	26	18	18
Grocer's Shops 162	162	153	153
Holiday Camps 1	1	1	1
Hotels/Licensed Premises 126	126	121	121
Warehouses 5	5	4	4
Institutions 4	4	4	4
Shrimp Boiling Premises 1	1	1	1

MILK

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

	<i>Untreated</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Sterilised</i>	<i>U.H.T.</i>
Samples tested	3	119	4	1
Satisfactory results	2	112	4	1
Unsatisfactory results	1	7	—	—

These figures include samples of Pasteurised School milk, all of which passed the statutory tests.

The unsatisfactory sample of milk sold as Untreated Milk was found to be Pasteurised milk which was being consigned as raw milk and cartonned in error. This was put right when the dairies concerned were notified of the sample result.

All of the unsatisfactory results concerning Pasteurised milk related to methylene blue test failures, the same samples all passed the phosphatase test for effective pasteurisation. The first named test is designed to indicate how well the milk will keep, but paradoxically, I did not hear of one souring complaint last year either from a consumer or a milk distributor, but the statutory tests did show that one source of supply needed investigation. This was done by having talks with the local distributor, the milk bottler, and the Great Yarmouth Public Health Inspector. Also, contractors conveying bulk supplies of bottled milk by road into Lowestoft were reminded to protect milk from the sun in warm weather.

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

Producer's milk from farms within the Borough was sampled and tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacillus, Brucella Abortus and Penicillin Residues. All eleven samples gave negative results. The milk from these farms is taken daily to pasteurising dairies.

COMPOSITIONAL SAMPLING

	<i>Untreated</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Sterilised</i>	<i>U.H.T.</i>
Samples tested	4	113	4	1
Results below stan- dard	—	1	—	—

These are excellent results. Throughout the year the samples contained percentages of fat and non-fatty solids well above the prescribed minimum.

ICE CREAM

Samples obtained for grading test	.....	.....	.....	16
Satisfactory results	.....	.....	.....	16

All of the samples were of locally made soft mix ice cream.

FOOD SAMPLES

Number submitted to the Public Analyst	.....	.....	.....	144
Number reported to be satisfactory by the Public Analyst	.....	.....	.....	123
Number reported to be unsatisfactory by the Public Analyst	.....	.....	.....	21

Reasons for unsatisfactory report by the analyst viz:—

Incorrect descriptions, list of ingredients, or illustrations on labels	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Insufficient meat content	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Excessive tin content	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Presence of non-permitted colouring matter	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Tainted Food	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

Appropriate action was taken to ensure that future products of the articles sampled would comply with the food regulations.

Three samples of food viz: two of Cheese and one of White Bread were submitted for testing for the presence of pesticide residues as part of the national scheme. These were satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT

ANNUAL REPORT IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
			<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	23	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	231	107	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	1	—	—
<i>Total</i>	252	131	20	—

FACTORIES ACT

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. I.F.	Referred by H.M. I.F.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	9	11	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	1	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	1	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	19	17	—	3	—
(c) not separate for sexes	2	—	2	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	33	31	4	4	—

FACTORIES ACT

PART VIII OF THE ACT

<i>Nature of Work</i>	Section 133			Section 134		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Pro-secutions</i>
Wearing apparel making, etc.	14	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	55	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	69	—	—	—	—	—

LOWESTOFT PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1968

Port Medical Officer of Health: DR. A. C. GEE

Chief Port Health Inspector: H. CORMACK

Deputy Port Health Inspector: F. G. S. HILL

CHARACTER OF PORT

The outer harbour consists of the Waveney Dock, Hamilton Dock, and Trawl Dock and the inner harbour is formed by Lake Lothing from the Swing Bridge to Mutford Lock.

The outer harbour is used for the landing of white fish and herrings and for the fuelling and icing of the fishing fleet. The inner harbour is used for ship building, repairs, and servicing of shipping and general commercial use.

During the year in the Inner Harbour a new roadway, linking the west end of Commercial Road with the roadway at the rear of the transit shed at the west end of the North Quay, was completed.

In conjunction with this work the quay at the Silo Berth was reconstructed and the rail access was revised.

The export of livestock commenced in 1967 was continued throughout the year.

MEDICAL SERVICES

The Port Medical Officer is frequently asked for medical advice regarding injured or sick seamen aboard vessels making for the port. Details of these cases come to the shipping agents concerned, by radio telephone.

Foreign seamen are seen by the Port Medical Officer and either sent to hospital or the master of the vessel given instructions regarding suitable treatment. Seamen on local boats, who live in the district, are referred to their own family doctors.

The Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen has a modern hostel for fishermen in the town, to which a local general practitioner is attached for any medical services that may be required.

WATER SUPPLY

Mains water is supplied throughout the docks, metered supplies are provided to every office and fish merchants stands. Additional supply points are provided for the watering of trawlers and for the cleansing of the fish market.

MARKET CLEANSING

The fish markets are hosed down daily using mains water and this work has been efficiently carried out all through the year by the employees of the Docks Board.

FISH LANDINGS FOR THE YEAR

2,055 landings were made by trawlers during the year. Five new and four secondhand vessels joined the fleet. Three vessels were sold abroad and two were sold out of fishing. Two vessels were scrapped and one was lost at sea. Four vessels were transferred to Fleetwood. The fleet strength thus decreased by three vessels.

The quantities and values of fish landed during 1968 are as follows:—

	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Value (£s)</i>
Brill	323	3,601
Catfish	2,068	5,666
Cod	137,256	522,494
Conger Eels	3	9
Dabs	2,974	9,398
Dogfish	4,521	14,803
Gurnards	592	1,185
Haddock	16,699	58,073
Hake	192	1,308
Halibut	154	2,285
Lemon Soles	8,216	81,603
Ling	1,048	1,705
Mackerel (Trawl)	11	50
Monkfish	593	2,372
Plaice	272,619	1,829,340
Pollock	232	577
Roes	321	1,735
Saithe	532	972
Skates/Rays	5,877	29,767
Soles	6,043	157,754
Turbot	8,278	164,082
Whiting	2,636	7,106
Witches	249	1,076
All others	507	1,372
	<u>471,944</u>	<u>£2,898,333</u>

White fish landed was inspected daily before the commencement of the fish auction sales.

EAST ANGLIAN HERRING FISHING SEASON

Number of Landings	17
Quantity of Crans landed	81
Value	£1,213

The 81 crans landed were taken by Freshers.

Only one vessel was fishing from the port.

INSPECTIONS

1,449 inspections of trawlers were made during the year in connection with the sanitary conditions aboard ship, water supply and the cleanliness of fish rooms.

The attention of the owners was drawn to the following matters:—

Galleys and cabins in need of cleansing and painting	.....	9
Water tanks in need of cleansing	.....	41
W.C. pans renewed	.....	2
Washbasins renewed	.....	1
Dirty bedding	.....	11

As in previous years immediate attention was given by the owners to the remedying of these conditions.

FISH INSPECTION

All white fish landed was inspected daily before the commencement of the fish auction sales.

RODENT CONTROL

257 inspections were made in connection with the issue of certificates under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1956.

VERMIN

Crew accommodation was disinfested for the following causes:—

Lice	.....	10
Scabies	.....	2

CONCLUSION

It is once again our pleasure to place on record our appreciation of the ready and willing co-operation which has at all times been accorded to the Public Health Department by the Docks Manager and his staff, the District Fisheries Officer, H.M. Customs and Excise Officers, and the various sections of the fishing industry.

SECTION I—STAFF					
TABLE A.					
Name of officer	Nature of appointment	Date of appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held	
ARTHUR C. GEE	Port Medical Officer of Health	1.1.49	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Area Medical Officer of Health E.S.C.C.	
H. CORMACK	Chief Port Health Inspector	6.9.52	Cert S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector	
F. G. S. HILL	Deputy Port Health Inspector	3.1.55	Cert S.I.B.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	
Address and telephone number of } Public Health Department, Clapham Road, Lowestoft. the Medical Officer of Health } Telephone No. : Lowestoft 2171.					
TABLE B.					
SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR					
Ships from :	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	626	131,503	Nil	75	Nil
Coastwise	371	60,859	Nil	4	Nil
Total	997	192,362	Nil	79	Nil

<i>Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:</i>	
HOLLAND	—Rotterdam, Ijmuiden, Amsterdam
RUSSIA	—Leningrad, Archangel
SWEDEN	—Gelfe, Norsundet, Hudiksväl, Stutska, Norrköping, Munksund
FINLAND	—Mantylampi, Kotka
POLAND	—Gdańsk
BRAZIL	—Paraná
CYPRUS	—Limassol
BELGIUM	—Antwerp, Ostend

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

Numbers and Tonnage using the district and places served by the traffic—Nil

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY	No Change
SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952-1961	No Change
SECTION VII—SMALLPOX	No Change
SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE	No Change

TABLE D.

SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

<i>Category</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number of cases during the year</i>		<i>Number of ships concerned</i>
		<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No occurrence of this disease

SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No occurrence of this disease

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

No Change

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Nil—Not an approved Port

TABLE F. DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED
DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS Nil—Not an approved Port

TABLE G. SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCE. INSPECTION AND NOTICES				
<i>Nature of inspection</i>	<i>Number inspected</i>	<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Result of serving notices</i>
		<i>Statutory notices</i>	<i>Other notices</i>	
Foreign Shipping	75	Nil	5	These concerned:— Choked drainage outlets (2) Deratisation certificate out of date (3) Choked drains were cleared and instructions given to renew deratisation exemption certificates at approved ports.
Coastwise Shipping	4	Nil	Nil	
British Fishing Vessels	1,449	Nil	64	These concerned:— Dirty galleys (9) Dirty bedding (11) Defective W.C.s (2) Water tanks needing cleansing (41) Defective wash basins (1) All the notices were complied with.

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948	Nil
SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS (APPLICABLE ONLY TO PORTS APPROVED FOR LANDING OF ALIENS) Not an approved Port	
SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS (ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE).	No Change

